

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A memory controller for accessing a flash memory having a plurality of physical blocks each including a plurality of pages and in which stored data is erased in a unit of the physical block, based on a host address which is in unit of a sector of data, supplied from a host computer, comprising:

search means for searching a start page, ~~corresponding to a last page of at least one page to which data is written, in said~~ the physical block corresponding to the host address supplied from the host computer;

determining means for determining whether ~~the at least one page designated by a first page of a page or pages corresponding to the host address or addresses supplied from the host computer are~~ is either one of the searched start page and a page located after the searched start page, or not, the searched start page and subsequent at least one page, or at least one page located after the start page;

write means for writing data supplied from the host computer into ~~at least one the page or pages designated by corresponding to the host address or host addresses supplied from the host computer when the determining means determines that the first page of a page or pages designated by corresponding to the host address or host addresses supplied from the host computer are~~ is the searched start page, the searched start page and subsequent at least one page, or at least one the page located after the searched start page; and

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start page information write means ~~for writing~~ which writes start page information into a ~~redundancy~~ redundant area of ~~[[a]]~~ the start page at a time when the write means starts writing data supplied from the host computer into the flash memory; which is searched by the search means, the start page information representing a page which is next to a last page of the page or pages into which data will be written by the write means and become a new start page after the data is written by the writing means; wherein

the start page information ~~representing~~ being a ~~next page~~ next to the last page of a page or pages into which the data ~~of last sector of the data~~ supplied from the host computer is ~~to be~~ written; and

~~a page being next page of a page which is in a physical block corresponding to the host address supplied from the host computer and into which last data is to be written becoming new start page,~~

the search means searching the start page ~~based on~~ by referring the start page information written in the redundant area.

22. (Currently Amended) A ~~memory controller as set forth in claim 21 including~~ a flash memory system having a flash memory and the memory controller as set forth in claim 21.

23. (Currently Amended) A memory control method for accessing a flash memory having a plurality of physical blocks each including a plurality of pages and in which stored data is erased in unit of the physical block, based on a host address which is in unit of a sector ~~of data~~, supplied from a host computer, comprising:

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~~searching a start page, corresponding to a last page of a page or pages to which data is written,~~ in a physical block corresponding to the host address supplied from the host computer;

determining whether first page or a page or pages designated by corresponding to the host address ~~or addresses~~ supplied from the host computer ~~are~~ is either one of the searched start page, ~~the searched start page and subsequent at least one page, or at least one and a page located after~~ the searched start page, or not;

writing data supplied from the host computer into ~~at least one~~ the page or pages designated by corresponding to the host address ~~or host addresses~~ supplied from the host computer when determining that the page or pages designated by corresponding to the host address ~~or host addresses~~ supplied from the host computer ~~are~~ is the searched start page, ~~the searched start page and subsequent at least one page, or at least one~~ the page located after the searched start page; and

writing start page information into a ~~redundancy~~ redundant area of ~~[[a]]~~ the start page at a time when starting writing data supplied from the host computer into the flash memory;

the start page ~~information representing a next page of a~~ being a page next to a last page or pages into which ~~data of last sector of~~ the data supplied from the host computer is ~~to be~~ written;

~~a page being next page of a page which is in a physical block corresponding to the host address supplied from the host computer and into which last data is to be written becoming new~~ start page;

the start page being searched based on the start information by referring the data written in the redundant area.